



News from

# Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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## Cong. Kind Named Conservation Legislator of the Year

*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Teaming With Wildlife Coalition, League of Conservation Voters  
Recognize Kind for Outstanding Contribution to Conservation*

**Washington, DC** –The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) awarded U.S. Rep. Kind today with the *2006 Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Legislator of the Year Award* for his outstanding contribution to fisheries and wildlife habitat conservation. The award, which is presented to one House member and one Senator each year, is the latest in a series of recognitions Kind has received for his conservation leadership in Congress; Kind also scored a 100 percent rating from the League of Conservation Voters for 2005 and recently was honored by the Teaming with Wildlife Coalition on behalf of more than 3,000 groups working to preserve wildlife and vital habitat.

“Having grown up in western Wisconsin with one of our nation’s most beautiful natural treasures-the Mississippi River- in my back yard, I have a great appreciation and enthusiasm for the outdoors that I want future generations to be able to experience,” said Rep. Kind. “Conservation is critical to ensuring that our outdoor traditions remain an important part of the nation’s heritage. As a representative in a state with a proud tradition of conservation leaders such as Aldo Leopold and Senator Gaylord Nelson, who understood the importance of protecting and enhancing our natural resources, I am privileged and honored to receive this recognition.”

Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dale Hall, who presented Kind with the award, stated: “Congressman Ron Kind has worked tirelessly to protect the Mississippi River. For his dedication to conservation in the Upper Mississippi River System and around the nation, the Fish and Wildlife Service is pleased to present Congressman Kind with the FHC Conservation Legislator of the Year Award.”

Since elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1996, Rep. Kind has helped to focus attention on wildlife and natural resource conservation. As a member of the Resources Committee, Kind has sponsored several conservation-related bills, including legislation to protect the health of the Upper Mississippi River Basin, establish a national program to combat chronic wasting disease, and preserve the habitats of neo-tropical migratory birds that populate along the Mississippi River.

As founder and Co-Chair of the Upper Mississippi River Basin Congressional Task Force, he has devoted his efforts to finding effective and balanced solutions to foster sustainable development on the Upper Mississippi. Kind also serves as a Vice Co-Chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, a bipartisan alliance of members of Congress who support fishing, hunting and conservation. His efforts have led to increased funding for conservation programs such as the State Wildlife Grants Program and the Upper Mississippi River System Environmental Management Program.